Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 OTTAWA 03224 102219Z

64
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EA-07 AF-08 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 /074 W
---------- 077152
R 102148Z AUG 76
FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 721

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE OTTAWA 3224

FOR EUR/CAN

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OGEN, CA
SUBJ: CANADIAN PUBLIC REACTION TO OLYMPICS

1. CANADIANS OF ALL POLITICAL PERSUASIONS AND BACKGROUNDS TENDED TO BE GLUED TO THEIR TV MONITORS DURING THE TWO-WEEK 21ST OLYMPIAD. ACROSS THE COUNTRY THERE WAS INTENSE INTEREST IN THE GAMES, PARTICULARLY WHEN CANADIAN ATHLETES WERE INVOLVED.

2. IN CALGARY AND BRITISH COLUMBIA THERE WAS CONCERN IF NOT RESENTMENT, OVER THE COST OF THE GAMES AND A GENERAL FEELING THAT EVENTUALLY ALL OF CANADA WOULD PAY FOR THEM. IN THE WEST, PARTICULARLY, THERE WAS A STRONG FEELING THAT PRIME MINISTER TRUDEAU HAD MISHANDLED THE TAIWAN AFFAIR AS WELL AS CONSIDERABLE DISAPPOINTMENT THAT THE AFRICAN NATIONS HAD PULLED OUT OF THE GAMES. OBSERVERS, THOUGH,NOTED A STRONGER CRITICAL FEELING AGAINST TRUDEAU FOR HIS TAIWAN DECISION THAN AGAINST THE AFRICAN NATIONS FOR THEIR BOYCOTT. THIS WAS PERHAPS PARTLY DUE TO THE FACT THAT CANADIANS IN THE WEST HOPE THAT THE AFRICANS WILL NOT BOYCOTT THE COMMONWEALTH GAMES IN EDMONTON IF NEW ZEALAND PARTICIPATES.
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 OTTAWA 03224 102219Z

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

4. IN THE EAST, PARTICULARLY IN QUEBEC AND ONTARIO, THERE WAS A GENERAL FEELING THAT NOW THAT THE GAMES ARE OVER SOMEONE HAS TO PAY THE PIPER. IN QUEBEC THERE WAS PARTICULAR CONCERN AS TO WHAT SCANDALS MIGHT ARISE FROM THE CRIMINAL TRAILS OF SEVERAL OLYMPICS CONTRACTORS. NO ONE WAS QUITE CERTAIN WHAT MONTREAL WOULD DO WITH ITS SPECTACULAR OLYMPIC FACILITIES; BUT THERE CERTAINLY DID NOT SEEM TO BE A FEELING OF DESPAIR; THERE WAS LITTLE THOUGHT THAT THE OLYMPIC EDIFICES WERE WHITE ELEPHANTS MEMORALIZING MAYOR JEAN DRAPEAU. INSTEAD, MOST ATTENTION HAS FOCUSED ON HOW THE STADIUM, POOL, VELODROME AND THE OLYMPIC VILLAGE CAN BE BEST PUT TO USE TO SERVE THE COMMUNITY.

4. THOUGH THEY WERE "THE MONTREAL OLYMPICS" ALL OF CANADA SEEMS TO HAVE SENSED THAT THE COUNTRY AS A WHOLE CAME OUT LOOKING SUCCESSFUL IN THE EYES OF THE WORLD. INITIALLY THE TAIWAN PROBLEM AND THE AFRICAN PULLOUT CAST A DISMAL GLOOM OVER THE PROCEEDINGS. BUT THIS WAS SOON FORGOTTEN AND THE ENTIRE COUNTRY WAS CAUGHT UP IN THE OLYMPIC SPIRIT; INDEED, IT WAS CANADA'S OLYMPICS.

5. MOST OTHER PROVINCES, THOUGH, DID NOT SEEM PRE-DISPOSED TO RUSH IN AND HELP MONTREAL AND QUEBEC PAY OFF THE HUGE DEBTS; WHILE THERE HAS BEEN SOME CRITICISM OF THE TRUDEAU GOVERNMENT'S DECISION NOT TO PROVIDE DIRECT FINANCIAL SUBSIDIES, MOST CANADIANS SEEM TO SUPPORT TRUDEAU'S STAND. THERE WAS, THOUGH, GENERAL RESIGNATION THAT INDIRECTLY THROUGH THE EXTENSION OF THE OLYMPIC LOTTERY, AND IN SOME AS YET UNSPECIFIED WAYS, THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, AND INDEED ALL CANADIANS, WOULD FOR SOME TIME TO COME BE HELPING TO PAY THE BILLS.

6. THE PRIME MINISTER'S HARD STANCE IN RESISTING SOVIET PRESSURES TO RETURN THE YOUNG SWIMMER WHO DEFECTED WAS STRONGLY SUPPORTED BY ALL SEGMENTS OF THE CANADIAN SOCIETY.

7. ON BALANCE, EXCEPT FOR STRONG CRITICISM FROM THE WEST OVER
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

THE TAIWAN AFFAIR, THE TRUDEAU GOVERNMENT HAS PROSPERED FROM THE SPIRIT OFOLYMPIC EUPHORIA, WHICH HOWEVER RELUCTANTLY, FINALLY SWEPT OVER CANADA. THE PM AND HIS FAMILY WERE SEEN OFTEN ON TELEVISION AT THE GAMES. THE FEDERAL SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS SEEM TO HAVE WORKED WELL. IN THE EYES OF THE WORLD (TAIWAN AFFAIR EXCEPTED) CANADA LOOKED GOOD AND THIS IN TURN MADE CANADIANS FEEL PROUD. THE FINAL COSTS AND THE ATTENDANT SCANDALS,

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

THOUGH, MUST STILL BE FACTORED INTO THE EQUATION.
LEARY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: BoyleJA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976OTTAWA03224
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760308-0331
From: OTTAWA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760869/aaaachyk.tel
Line Count: 117
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: BoyleJA
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <13 APR 2004 by ellisoob>; APPROVED <03 AUG 2004 by BoyleJA>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CANADIAN PUBLIC REACTION TO OLYMPICS
TAGS: OGEN, CA
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006